

OKINAWA MARINE

NOVEMBER 9, 2012

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Host communities, US sign evacuation plan



Ginowan City Mayor Atsushi Sakima, left, Maj. Gen. Peter J. Talleri, center, and Chatan Town Mayor Masaharu Noguni pose with the newly-signed Local Implementation Agreement in front of building 1 at Camp Foster Nov. 5. The agreement allows local residents access to evacuation routes through Marine Corps Air Station Futenma and Camp Foster in the event of a natural disaster, displaying the Marine Corps' continued dedication to working together with the Okinawa community to ensure safety of its citizens. Talleri is the commanding general of Marine Corps Installations Pacific and Marine Corps Base Camp Butler. Photo by Hitoshi Maeshiro

Lance Cpl. Brianna Turner

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Ginowan City Mayor Atsushi Sakima, Chatan Town Mayor Masaharu Noguni and Maj. Gen. Peter J. Talleri signed the Local Implementation Agreement in front of building 1 at Camp Foster Nov. 5.

The agreement allows local residents access to evacuation routes through Marine Corps Air Station Futenma and Camp Foster in the event of a natural disaster.

"With our signatures on this Local Implementation Agreement, we stand prepared to commemorate the Marine Corps' partnership with two host communities, Ginowan City and Chatan Town," said Talleri, the commanding general of Marine Corps Installations Pacific and Marine Corps Base Camp Butler.

The need for the agreement was reinforced by the Great East Japan Earthquake and subsequent tsunami that occurred March 11, 2011, and devastated much of Japan's eastern coast. The natural disaster demonstrated that the U.S. installations are much more than military bases. They are also platforms for providing humanitarian assistance and

see **IMPLEMENTATION** pg 5

Service members ride for awareness of human trafficking

Pfc. Kasey Peacock

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Service members from all branches of service participated in a 212-mile bike ride throughout Okinawa Nov. 1-2 to raise awareness of human trafficking.

The ride was in support of the organization 'Stop Slavery,' which began as a project of the American Military Youth Ministries in Okinawa. The organization spreads awareness of human trafficking across the Asia-Pacific region and manages an orphanage in Siem Reap, Cambodia, for children affected by human trafficking.

Human trafficking involves forceful enslavement of individuals and is an affront to human dignity, often involving psychological terror and physical violence. Human trafficking involves issues related to human rights, rule of law, see **RIDE** pg 5



An M777A2 155 mm howitzer is loaded onto a trailer Nov. 7 at Yokohama Port, Tokyo. Howitzers and other equipment were transported from the port to Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji for use during Artillery Relocation Training Program 12-3. Photo by Lance Cpl. Brandon C. Suhr

Marines arrive at Camp Fuji

Lance Cpl. Brandon C. Suhr

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP HANSEN — Marines and sailors with Mike Battery and a headquarters element with 12th Marine Regiment deployed to Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji Nov. 6 to conduct Artillery Relocation

Training Program 12-3.

During ARTP 12-3, Mike Battery, which is currently assigned to 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, will conduct artillery live-fire, small-arms, crew-served weapons, and other types of sustainment

see **ARTILLERY** pg 5

HAPPY 237TH BIRTHDAY MARINES



Veterans Day holiday message

Since the founding of our great nation, men and women have proudly pledged their service to our country. Veterans Day marks a special day of remembrance in which we pay tribute to the millions of men and women who have worn the nation's uniform in service to the cause of freedom.

Instituted on June 1, 1954, as Armistice Day to honor veterans of World War I, Nov. 11 later became a day to honor American veterans of all wars. It is fitting that each November, we pause to pay tribute to these brave men and women, remember their sacrifice, and pledge to follow their examples of selfless service.

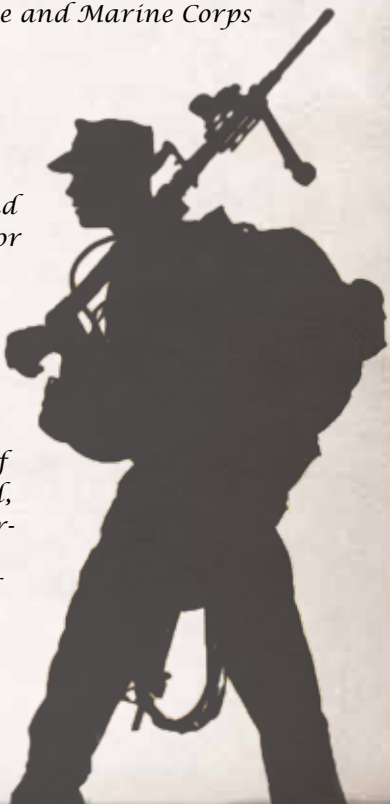
It is also important to acknowledge and thank our families, as military service is often a significant family commitment, involving shared sacrifice on the part of our parents, spouses and children. Please share with your loved ones that their daily efforts do not go unnoticed and that families are a major factor in keeping III Marine Expeditionary Force and Marine Corps Installations Pacific strong and ready.

Liberty commences as follows:

For III MEF and MCIPAC military personnel, to include those stationed on Hawaii: 4:30 p.m. Nov. 9 to 7:30 a.m. Nov. 14. For civilian employees: supervisors of U.S. civilian appropriated fund employees may permit liberal leave procedures for their employees if mission and workload permit. The observed holiday for all civilian employees, U.S. and Japanese, is Monday, Nov. 12. A liberal leave policy will be in effect Tuesday, Nov. 13.

While on liberty, remember you represent all veterans and U.S. service members. Your service affiliation makes you a role model to the youth of our great nation, and for those forward deployed, an example of a model U.S. citizen. Conduct yourselves with honor, courage and commitment. Be smart and safe while on liberty, and take care of each other.

*Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr.
Maj. Gen. Peter J. Talleri*



AROUND THE CORPS



Cpl. Thomas Cavallo and Lance Cpl. Corey Shaw assist with debris removal following Hurricane Sandy on Staten Island, N.Y., Nov. 4. Marines and sailors of the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit are providing generators, fuel, clean water and helicopter lift capabilities for humanitarian aid and disaster relief efforts. Damage estimates from the hurricane are at nearly \$50 billion. Cavallo is an airframe mechanic with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 366, 26th MEU. Shaw is a food service specialist with the 26th MEU. Photo by Cpl. Bryan Nygaard



Recruits remove their M50 joint service general purpose masks to expose themselves to ortho-chlorobenzylidene malonitrile, better known as CS gas, a non-lethal, riot control agent, at the confidence chamber aboard Marine Corps Base Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 29. The purpose of the confidence chamber is to let recruits experience the effects of the gas while allowing them to gain confidence in their ability to properly clear their masks. The recruits are with Company K, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion. Photo by Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane



Sgt. Kyle M. Crance fires an M240D machine gun while flying over the Indian Ocean Oct. 25. Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 364 (Reinforced), 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, conducted aerial gunner and tail gunner training to refresh the skills of eight of the unit's crew chiefs and conducted aerial tail gunner qualifications for two of their aerial observers. Crance is a weapons and tactics instructor and CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter crew chief with HMM-364 (Rein.), 15th MEU. Photo by Cpl. John Robbatt III

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NORTHERN BUREAU

Camp Hansen

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SOUTHERN BUREAU

Camp Kinser

DSN 637-1092

Marines offer feedback for new officers

Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Representatives from The Basic School in Quantico, Va., visited Marines with III Marine Expeditionary Force and Marine Corps Installations Pacific to conduct a survey and brief at Camp Foster Nov. 5.

The purpose of the visit was to gather feedback on the performance of new lieutenants and warrant officers from Marines who either work for or oversee these officers. TBS representatives also met with Marines on other Marine Corps installations on Okinawa during their visit.

Every day, new officers report to their first duty station after their military occupational specialty school and often, even after months of rigorous training at Officer Candidates School and TBS, these new officers still do not know exactly what to expect, according to Lt. Col. James G. Sweeney, the warfighting director with Support Battalion at TBS. As a result, TBS initiated a survey program in which representatives from the school visit units throughout the Marine Corps to pinpoint the strengths and weaknesses of new officers.

“Our goals are to assess student and instructor performance,” said Sweeney. “We want to evaluate the course content through the assessment of new lieutenants and warrant officers who have been in the fleet for 60 to 180 days.”

After OCS, newly commissioned officers attend TBS to learn the basic skills of being an officer of Marines. TBS is 26 weeks long and comprised of four phases. During these phases, Marines are evaluated on their leadership, academic and military skills. Throughout the course of TBS, new officers are expected to learn many Marine skills, including the tools of an effective rifle squad leader and rifle platoon commander.

“At TBS, we believe that every Marine is a rifleman,” said Sweeney. “But every Marine officer also must be a capable platoon commander.”

In addition to their training at TBS, the Marines must be able to meet what are known as the “Horizontal Themes.”

These three themes emulate what the school believes define a model officer: one who makes decisions in the fog of war, is a warfighter who embraces the Corps’ warrior ethos, and is mentally strong and physically tough.

“We want to get any feedback, both positive and negative,” said Chief Warrant Officer Robert L. Tagliabue, the infantry weapons officer with Support Battalion at TBS. “We want any information we can get to improve the learning experience and curriculum at TBS.”

The representatives will take the feedback they received during their trip to Okinawa and compile it with feedback from other site visits with the goal of improving the TBS curriculum to develop better future leaders for the Marine Corps, according to Sweeney.

“It is very hard to prepare the new officers for what they are going to face when they get to the fleet,” said Sweeney. “For us to be able to meet our mission statement, we need to be able to produce the best officers we possibly can. These visits will help us continue to improve our curriculum and the officers we produce.”

Sailors, Marines discuss integration



Rear Adm. Jeffrey A. Harley and Col. John A. Ostrowski discuss joint integration and interoperability with members of Expeditionary Strike Group 7 and 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade at White Beach Nov. 2. Members of ESG 7 taught a class on the composite warfare commander concept and discussed joint interoperability and planning considerations for when the Navy and Marine Corps work together. The 3rd MEB is a scalable, middleweight force that a commander can tailor to efficiently meet the needs of a mission. Meetings like this improve Navy and Marine Corps interoperability and increase readiness and the ability to respond to a variety of crises and disasters while building professional and personal relationships between the two commands. Harley is the commander, ESG 7. Ostrowski is the chief of staff of 3rd MEB. Photo by 2nd Lt. Jeremy N. Alexander

DOD promotes health, tobacco cessation

Lance Cpl. Brianna Turner

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP HANSEN — Marine Corps Community Services is scheduled to support the American Cancer Society’s 37th Great American Smokeout at Camp Hansen Nov. 15.

The American Cancer Society encourages smokers to use the day to take a break and make a plan to quit tobacco use.

By quitting the use of tobacco, even for one day, smokers are taking an important step towards a healthier lifestyle and reducing the risk of cancer, according to the American Cancer Society.

“We promote this event every year on Camp Hansen,” said Gregory N. Hammond, a wellness director with MCCS. “We choose Hansen because it has the highest population of single Marines, so we can reach more people in our target audience.”

Prior to Nov. 15, MCCS is placing flyers around the camp to encourage Marines and sailors to participate in the smokeout, according to Hammond.

“The goal is to get smokers to quit for one day,” said Kimberly D. Beard, the health promotion program manager for MCCS. “We hope that quitting for one day will make them think about quitting for good.”

On the day of the smokeout, MCCS will go to highly populated areas and hand out pamphlets with information on the negative effects of tobacco use, according to Hammond.

“We also bring displays which show a mouth after years of smoking or using smokeless tobacco, what tar looks like inside your body and arteries that are hardened due to tobacco use,” said Hammond.

Smoking is the largest preventable cause of disease and premature death in the U.S., according to the American Cancer Society. While this is a well-known and publicized fact, 45 million Americans still smoke.

The smokeout is promoted not just by the Marine Corps, but by the entire Department of



Defense in an attempt to ensure the best health and fitness for all U.S. service members.

“Tobacco is the biggest preventable health issue in the U.S. military,” said Beard. “We need our service members as healthy and as fit as possible, so it is important to make any effort we can to help them quit.”

The DOD has supported the Great American Smokeout from the beginning, according to Beard. This is the 37th event and the DOD will continue providing support in hopes of changing lives.

“There may not be a huge turnout every year, but if we can get a few people to participate and those people tell their friends, the numbers will go up,” said Beard. “If we get just one person to quit from this single day, that is one life we may have saved and makes the whole program a success.”

BRIEFS**MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY MEALS**

In recognition of the U.S. Marine Corps' 237th birthday, Marine Corps mess halls throughout Okinawa will be serving a special lunch meal Nov. 9. The menu will include grilled ribeye steak, lobster tail, crab legs, shrimp cocktail, rice pilaf, corn on the cob, baked potato, sauteed mushrooms and onions, soup of the day, dinner rolls, salad bar, birthday cake and assorted desserts.

Civilians will be authorized to dine in the mess halls for this special meal.

The full-meal rate must be paid for the lunch meal before enjoying. E-1 through E-4 will be charged the discounted meal rate.

AIR CONDITIONING SHUTDOWN

It is that time of year again as air conditioning will soon be shut down. Average temperatures from mid-November through early April range from 68-76 degrees and relative humidity ranges from 63-74 percent.

The trigger to turning off air conditioning systems is a seven-day average high temperature below 73 degrees.

The shutdown saves energy and allows critical preventive maintenance to be performed.

MARINE CORPS COMPETITION-IN-ARMS

All eligible active-duty Marines are encouraged to participate in the Far East Division Matches Jan. 18 - Feb. 1, 2013 at Camp Schwab.

Nominations must be submitted through the chain of command. All entrants must currently be a sharpshooter or above.

Space is limited and the deadline to sign up is Dec. 4.

For more information, call 623-3275 or 623-3271.

MEDICATION TAKE BACK DAY

U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, in conjunction with the Camp Foster Provost Marshal's Office, will sponsor an islandwide medication take back day Nov. 17. Collection points will be located outside the Camp Foster main exchange and commissary from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Expired or unused prescription and over-the-counter medications will be accepted from status of forces agreement personnel and retirees. Bring all medicine and containers so personnel can dispose of them properly for environmental and personal safety.

For more information, contact the USNH Okinawa pharmacy at 643-7547.

SCHEDULED POWER, WATER OUTAGES

Camps Foster and Lester and Plaza Housing will experience temporary scheduled power and water outages through the month of November. For more information, contact Camp Services at 645-0883 or visit www.facebook.com/campfoster.

TO SUBMIT A BRIEF, send an email to okinawamarine.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil, or fax your request to 645-3803. The deadline for submitting a brief is noon Friday. Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material.

Urasoe city mayor tours Kinser

Cpl. Erik S. Brooks Jr.

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP KINSER — Urasoe City Mayor Mitsuo Gima met with Brig. Gen. Niel E. Nelson and took a personal tour of Camp Kinser Nov. 5.

The day began with the leaders sitting down in Nelson's office for a discussion. Nelson, the commanding general of 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, wanted to ensure the mayor that Camp Kinser's Marines, sailors and civilian employees are very dedicated to the great relationship they have with Urasoe City.

"We take it very seriously that we are good neighbors and we talk to our Marines, sailors and civilians to ensure we continue to develop and strengthen our good relationship," said Nelson.

They also discussed the future return of Camp Kinser back to the Okinawa prefecture.

"We wanted to know what tactical functions Camp Kinser has so we can plan for the future when the base gets reverted," said Gima.

The leaders of Camp Kinser also want to make sure there is an open and transparent dialogue as more is learned about the process of turning the base over to Okinawa.

"Our goal is to maintain a very clean and close camp with the city and do everything we can so when that time comes, it's a very smooth transition," said Nelson.

Gima appreciated the opportunity to discuss the reversion with the Marines and looks forward to a continued friendship between the city and the Corps.

"We have always had a great relationship between Camp Kinser and Urasoe City," said Gima. "These meetings help keep the dialogue open and are very good for the future relationship between us."

Following the meeting, Col.



Col. John E. Kasperski welcomes Urasoe City Mayor Mitsuo Gima aboard Camp Kinser during a tour of the camp Nov. 5. Kasperski is the Camp Kinser camp commander and the commanding officer of Combat Logistics Regiment 37, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Photo by Cpl. Erik S. Brooks Jr.

John E. Kasperski, the Camp Kinser camp commander, and Paul E. Newman, the Camp Kinser deputy camp commander, conducted a tour of Camp Kinser for Gima. The tour consisted of showing Gima a few of Camp Kinser's facilities.

The tour started at the mess hall, where the leaders ate together. After finishing the meal, the tour continued to some of Camp Kinser's housing units.

"I was surprised to see the rooms of the Marines," said Gima. "It was different to see how the Marines live and it gave me a more human perspective of Marines."

When Gima was finished seeing the rooms, the leaders went to the Supply Management Storage Unit, which is part of 3rd Supply Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd MLG, III MEF. While there, the mayor was given a full view of the process of distributing gear to Marine units throughout Okinawa.

Gima also had the opportunity to visit Electronic Maintenance Company, which is part of 3rd Maintenance Battalion, CLR-35, 3rd MLG, III MEF. The Marines of the company showed off their capabilities, including calibration

of tools and fixing field radios.

"I was very impressed with the advanced technology the Marines were working with," said Gima.

The group then visited the U.S. Army's Humanitarian Assistance Programs warehouse and viewed supplies held there. Some of the supplies were used in relief efforts following the Great East Japan Earthquake and subsequent tsunami that struck mainland Japan last year.

The last stop for the group was the Battle of Okinawa Historical Organization's display, where Gima had the opportunity to view artifacts from the battle.

"The purpose of this visit and tour was to give the mayor some insight on the everyday life of a Marine," said Newman.

Gima thanked Nelson, Kasperski and Newman for the visit and afterwards, Nelson reflected on the importance of events like the meeting and tour and their role in maintaining a positive relationship with the local community.

"The city of Urasoe is a beautiful one and our Marines enjoy it greatly," said Nelson. "By interacting with the community through events like this, we keep building on our strong friendship."

MCIPAC leaders donate, sign pledge forms

From left, Maj. Gen. Peter J. Talleri and Sgt. Maj. Patrick L. Kimble sign their Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas pledges at Camp Foster Oct. 31. Federal employees are able to donate to a variety of charitable organizations through the campaign. The program, which began 51 years ago, is the only authorized solicitation of federal employees on behalf of charitable organizations. The deadline to donate this year is Nov. 16. Talleri is the commanding general and Kimble is the sergeant major of Marine Corps Installations Pacific and Marine Corps Base Camp Butler.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Brianna Turner



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disaster relief, according to Talleri. The bases will only be successful as response platforms if the U.S. and Japan work together.

"Disaster preparedness is everyone's responsibility," said Talleri. "This is the lesson we learned on March 11, 2011, when a 9.0 magnitude earthquake struck and caused a tsunami and great damage. That changed how we view our installations and our future in Japan."

While this agreement addresses Ginowan City and Chatan Town directly, it is important for the entire Okinawa Prefecture.

"There are approximately 12,000 residents in the west coast area of Chatan Town," said Noguni. "This area is visited by tourists as well as other foreigners. In the spirit of protecting the lives of the residents, we have worked together to develop a disaster plan that works."

After the signing, citizens



Residents of Ginowan City and Chatan Town participate in a humanitarian assistance evacuation drill at Camp Foster Nov. 5. The residents walked the southern tsunami evacuation route of Camp Foster's two evacuation routes following the signing of the Local Implementation Agreement, which offers access to the routes in the event of a natural disaster. Photo by Lance Cpl. Brianna Turner

of Ginowan City and Chatan Town, including children from local day care centers, participated in an evacuation drill, using one of the routes from the agreement. The participants walked onto Camp

Foster through gate 5, the commissary gate, and exited the base on higher ground through gate 6, also known as the legion gate.

It is very important that Chatan Town, Ginowan City

and the U.S. military are united and work together to ensure disaster preparedness, according to Sakima.

"Our citizens are surrounded by water here on Okinawa," said Sakima. "It

is important for us to secure an evacuation route to higher ground in case of a tsunami, and this agreement allows for that."

The agreement helps ensure the safety of citizens and strengthens the relationship between Japan and the U.S.

"We strive to be contributing members to the local communities in which we live," said Talleri. "We do all we can to enhance the trust and confidence of our Okinawa hosts and to nurture our good relationships."

"You may be assured that the Marine Corps is committed to doing everything we can to be prepared to respond in the event of a natural disaster," said Talleri. "Not only are we allies, but we are partners, friends and neighbors. Identifying programs and solutions to issues of mutual interest is a sign of our strength and unity and this agreement serves to reinforce our commitment to cooperation."

RIDE from pg 1

law enforcement, inequality, discrimination, corruption, economic deprivation and migration, according to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

The 10 participants began and finished the two-day ride, which was coordinated by Lt. Cmdr. Joshua C. Treesh, the director of the Branch Dental Clinic at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. The event was open to anyone willing to endure the strenuous ride for a greater cause.

"A bunch of us got together and talked about how we wanted to do our part in support of this worldwide issue," said Treesh. "It wasn't about the physical pain we would endure during the ride – it was about raising awareness and giving a voice to those who don't have one. We chose cycling because we knew it was going to be a big challenge for us."

The riders set off Nov. 1 from the Cavalry Chapel near Marine Corps Air Station Futenma and ended 120 miles later at Okuma, where family members and supporters met them.

"The ride wouldn't have been possible without our supporters," said Treesh. "Even though they weren't riding, they still supported the cause."

The riders left Okuma the next morning and arrived back at the chapel around 7 p.m. They totaled nearly 22 hours of ride time during the event.



Cpl. Andrew J. Barrow checks a bike during a pit stop in the midst of a two-day, 212-mile bike ride throughout Okinawa to raise awareness about human trafficking Nov. 1-2. Barrow is a correctional specialist with Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. Photo by Pfc. Kasey Peacock

Throughout the ride, Chief Warrant Officer Cory H. Coulter, a chemical biological radiological and nuclear defense officer with Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 1, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and Cpl. Andrew J. Barrow, a correctional specialist with Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific, represented the Marine Corps in the ride, keeping the entire group's spirits high by saying encouraging words and singing cadences.

"Everyone was exhausted and pushing themselves to the limit," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Brian D. Layton, an electrical and environmental systems instructor with 372nd Training Squadron, 982nd Training Group, 82nd Training Wing,

Air Education and Training Command. "Despite the stress of the ride, you could still hear the Marines motivating the riders and calling cadence."

The service members bonded and worked together during the ride, helping each other with obstacles they came across.

"It was great working together and I was happy that besides one flat tire and one fall, the ride went extremely smooth," said Barrow.

The riders received a lot of attention and cheers from different people during the ride, according to Barrow.

"As a Marine, I had the mentality to never give up and push forward for the cause," said Barrow. "Human trafficking is a huge issue and I will do anything I can to raise awareness and help those in need."

ARTILLERY from pg 1

training throughout November.

The regularly-scheduled training promotes regional stability and security by allowing units stationed on Okinawa to improve their ability to support III MEF's role in the defense of Japan under the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security.

The battalion is conducting the training to sustain unit proficiency and maintain combat readiness, according to Staff Sgt. Erik R. Myersloredo, an ammunition technician with 3rd Bn., 12th Marines.

Marines with the battalion spent several days preparing equipment for the deployment to the North Fuji Maneuver Area, a training area located near CATC Camp Fuji used by both U.S. and Japan Self-Defense Force personnel.

"The Marines spent countless hours packing and weighing all the gear to prepare for the deployment, as well as ensuring all gear was loaded properly to be shipped from Okinawa to mainland Japan," said Master Sgt. Thomas D. Veenstra, the battalion's field artillery chief.

Mike Battery is scheduled to conduct 10 days of live-fire artillery training while at the North Fuji Maneuver Area.

"This training is to help increase accurate and timely reactions for real-life scenarios," said Staff Sgt. Shawn J. Dudley, the battery gunnery sergeant for Mike Battery.

The North Fuji Maneuver Area is one of five sites where Marine artillery training can be conducted outside of Okinawa and offers a unique training opportunity for artillery units assigned to 3rd Bn., 12th Marines under the unit deployment program.

"Mike Battery is (permanently) stationed in (Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twenty-nine Palms), Calif.," said Dudley. "We are out here to increase our efficiency and skills in a different terrain than back in the states."

Artillery live-fire training has been conducted on mainland Japan since 1997, when the training was relocated from Okinawa in accordance with the Special Action Committee on Okinawa's final report. All training sites have been approved by the government of Japan.



Marines leap off an assault amphibious vehicle into the ocean during surf qualification off the coast of Oura Wan Beach at Camp Schwab Oct. 30. "This training evolution enables the Marines to get back to their core competency of being amphibious," said Master Sgt. Sammy S. Supnet, the logistics chief with AAV Company, a part of CAB. "The Marines had the opportunity to overcome any fear of disembarking an AAV into open waters while trusting their life preserver to aid in a 500-meter swim."

Surf qualification

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Assault amphibious vehicles head 500 meters out from the shores of an Okinawa beach. The AAVs come to a sudden halt, and about 10 Marines and sailors from each AAV leap into the waters in succession.

This sequence was conducted several more times as more than 400 Marines and sailors completed their surf qualification off the coast of Oura Wan Beach at Camp Schwab Oct. 30.

Marines with Headquarters and Service Company, Combat Engineer Company and Assault Amphibious Vehicle Company, all part of Combat Assault Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, participated in the qualification. Marines with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, which is currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, also participated in the surf qualification.

The 500-meter qualification swim is required to ensure the Marines are competent swimmers in the event they have to abandon their AAV and get back to land.

"This training evolution enables the Marines to get back to their core competency of being amphibious," said Master Sgt. Sammy S. Supnet, the logistics chief with AAV Company. "The



Cpl. Geo Kakkar watches service members leap into the ocean during surf qualification off the coast of Oura Wan Beach at Camp Schwab Oct. 30. The qualification is required to guarantee the Marines are competent swimmers in the event they have to abandon their assault amphibious vehicle and get back to land. Participants in the qualification are with Headquarters and Service Company, Combat Engineer Company and Assault Amphibious Vehicle Company, all part of Combat Assault Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Marines with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, which is currently assigned to 4th Marines, also participated. Kakkar is an assault amphibious vehicle crewman with AAV Company.

on brings Marines back to amphibious roots

Marines had the opportunity to overcome any fear of disembarking an AAV into open waters while trusting their life preserver to aid in a 500-meter swim.”

During the qualification, the currents dragged the service members further down the beach and away from their intended destination, making their swim more difficult, according to Capt. Todd P. Forsman, the company commander for AAV Company.

“The waves’ current moved north to south,” said Forsman. “Even if the Marines swam straight, they had to recalibrate their path because the current would shift them off course, making them work harder.”

Each service member had a partner during the swim in case of any problems making it back to shore. The service members wore a white shirt if they were basic or intermediate swim qualified, according to Supnet.

“The partners were evenly paired – every weak swimmer was matched up with a strong swimmer,” said Supnet.

For some service members, the surf qualification was an entirely new experience.

“This was my first surf qualification,” said Lance Cpl. Sean B. Drea, a field radio operator with CAB. “Even though I have a fear of water, becoming familiar with water through training



Marines return to shore after dropping service members 500 meters from the shore during a surf qualification off the coast of Oura Wan Beach at Camp Schwab Oct. 30.

like this enhances my amphibious abilities as a Marine.”

Some of the service members found the qualification challenging due to the long distance of the swim.

“When looking at the drop-off point from land, it looks much shorter than when you jump out of the AAV and swim back to the shore,” said Drea. “The event is a mind teaser, but most of all it tests each individual’s amount of dedication to

keep pushing forward to complete the mission.”

As the Marines and sailors completed the qualification, it was apparent they were confident in their survival skills, according to Forsman.

“Everyone demonstrated the ability to negotiate 500 meters of open ocean and get back to shore in case of an emergency on an AAV,” said Forsman. “The event allowed us to get back to our amphibious roots.”





Staff Sgt. Robert E. Valdez, left, observes Sgt. Matthew S. Brown's target while Brown fires his M16-A4 service rifle during a combat marksmanship training course at Camp Hansen Oct. 29. Valdez is the course's chief instructor with Company B, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. Brown is a student in the course and food service specialist with CLR-37, 3rd MLG.

Sgt. Marvilous M. McCammon fires the M9 service pistol on the pistol range at Camp Hansen during a combat marksmanship training course Oct. 29. Range coaches are entrusted to develop Marines by passing on the Corps' time-honored tradition of precise marksmanship. McCammon is a student in the course and warehouse clerk with Combat Logistics Regiment 37, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Marines apply marksmanship skills

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Ensuring the Marine Corps maintains its reputation of having the best riflemen in the world is a tremendous responsibility the Corps places on its Marines.

Marines with various III Marine Expeditionary Force and Marine Corps Installations Pacific units participated in a combat marksmanship training course at Camp Hansen Oct. 29 to Nov. 2 in preparation for being part of the next generation of range coaches.

There are numerous responsibilities that come with the title of range coach, including teaching and analyzing the skills and techniques required to accurately fire the M16-A4 service rifle and M9 service pistol. Additionally, range coaches also assist in the day-to-day operations of the ranges.

The course allowed Marines to apply the fundamentals of marksmanship acquired in the classroom during the previous week.

The classroom training included refreshers on the fundamentals of marksmanship and instruction on teaching the intricacies of marksmanship. After reviewing the essentials, Marines



Marines conducting a combat marksmanship training course inspect their targets after shooting at Camp Hansen Oct. 29. The training allowed Marines to apply the fundamentals of marksmanship acquired in the classroom during the previous week.

applied their renewed marksmanship traits during practical application.

"The Marines are going through the necessary steps to become confident with the weapons while applying the fundamentals," said Lance Cpl. William E. Coe, a marksmanship coach with 3rd Supply Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III MEF. "The Marines also have the chance to get comfortable with the pistol, especially since this is the first time many of them have ever fired one."

The practical application began with Marines firing the M16-A4 service rifle before moving on to the pistol.

"The Marines have to shoot the weapon to fully comprehend what they have learned," said Sgt. Argus R. Bennett, an

instructor at the course and radio operator with CLR-3, 3rd MLG, III MEF. "This training gives the Marines the confidence they need and will benefit them in the future."

Range coaches are entrusted to develop Marines by passing on the Corps' time-honored tradition of precise marksmanship, making it critical for them to learn the necessary skills to be effective teachers.

"I hold these skills very dear to me," said Staff Sgt. Robert E. Valdez, the course's chief instructor with Company B, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. "Since every Marine is a rifleman, I want to teach these Marines as much as I can so they can become excellent coaches."

Marines teach self-protection

Lance Cpl. Donald T. Peterson

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The crowd of students from the Ryukyu Rehabilitation Academy sat mesmerized as Marines demonstrated several martial arts techniques in an intense display of proficiency. Soon, they would have the opportunity to try out the techniques themselves with the Marines' assistance.

Marines with 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF, came out to perform and share martial arts techniques at a festival held at Ryukyu Rehabilitation Academy Nov. 4.

"Bruce Lee once said 'the art of fighting is not to fight,'" said Chief Warrant Officer John W. Crandall, the camp operations officer for Camp Hansen. "We are here at the Ryukyu Rehabilitation Academy not to teach the students how to fight, but to teach them how to avoid fights or to engage an attacker and defend themselves in case they are put in that situation."

The academy is a sports rehabilitation facility which uses the martial art judo as part of its rehabilitation techniques, according to Col. Stephen B. Lewallen, the camp commander for Camp Hansen.

"We are out here sharing a little bit of our martial arts techniques with the local community," said Lewallen. "As guests in their country, positive engagements like this are a good way to exchange cultural ideas and help create a stronger relationship between military service members and the surrounding community."

Both Crandall and Lance Cpl. William B. Goudreau, a military policeman with 3rd LE Bn.,



Chief Warrant Officer John W. Crandall teaches students of the Ryukyu Rehabilitation Academy how to perform a martial arts technique at the Ryukyu Rehabilitation Academy Nov. 4. Crandall, along with 15 Marines with 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF, came out to the school's festival to demonstrate and teach several different defensive martial arts techniques. Crandall is the camp operations officer for Camp Hansen. Photo by Lance Cpl. Donald T. Peterson

demonstrated different martial arts techniques, including several to be utilized on attackers in self-defense.

After the demonstration, academy students were offered a chance to execute the martial arts techniques with Marine volunteers.

"This experience was really exciting for me," said Ayano Oshiro, a student at the academy. "This is the first time I have been able to do something like this and I enjoyed it a lot."

While the students learned some martial arts techniques, the Marines were able to integrate themselves further into Okinawa's culture by working with them.

"I think the Marines on Camp Hansen are good people, so I wanted to have some interactions with them and would like for this to continue," said Satoru Gima, chairman of the board of directors for Ryukyu Rehabilitation Academy.

"For example: they can use our school facility or our therapists could exchange ideas with the therapists on Camp Hansen."

As the festival and martial arts exchange came to an end, the students and Marines concluded with a friendly competition of Kendo, the art of sword fighting with bamboo swords. The Marines and students used foam swords to engage each other in teams of three.

After an eventful day, both the Marines and students left with new friends and skills.

"We are so close to each other, so it is good to have interactions," said Tomohide Taira, vice chair of the board of directors for the academy. "Normally, we don't get a chance to talk to each other even though we are neighbors. This kind of event is a good chance to start interactions and we hope to build on it in the future."

Field mess serves up hot competition for prestigious award

Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The smell of hot food surrounded the field mess site as Marines with Marine Wing Support Squadron 172 prepared to defend their title as the best food service support unit in the Marine Corps during the William Pendleton Thompson Hill competition at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Nov. 1.

The WPT Hill competition was started in 1985 and is named after Maj. Gen. William P. T. Hill, the quartermaster general of the Marine Corps from 1944-55.

Mess halls are judged on taste, quality of food, sanitation and operations during the competition by judges from the Maj. Gen. William Pendleton Thompson Hill Memorial Awards Program for Food Service Excellence, who travel to various Marine Corps bases worldwide to crown the overall winners in several categories, including food service support.

The Marines with MWSS-172, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, will be judged against food service support Marines with 2nd Marine Logistics Group, II MEF from Camp Lejeune, N.C., and 1st MLG, I MEF from Camp Pendleton, Calif.

The squadron was judged in both field and garrison settings during the competition at the air station.

"Today, we set up a humanitarian (assistance and) disaster relief scenario," said Lt. Col. Darin J. Clarke, the commanding officer of the squadron. "Conducting a field mess site is one of our many missions as (MWSS-172)."

The exercise was more than just a display of food-service prowess. Motor

transportation, utilities and communications elements with MWSS-172 all participated to ensure the field mess hall ran as smoothly as possible.

"We are here to provide the mess hall with any support possible," said Lance Cpl. Cecilia M. Mavrommatis, a basic water support technician with the squadron. "This is great training for us, as we get to explore what our job is like outside of our daily routine."

The competition began with the Marines preparing food. Everyone had to know exactly what his or her roll was for the operation to run smoothly.

"This competition is allowing us to apply our training. We get to refresh on old skills as well as learn new ones related to setting up the field mess facility."

Pfc. Zach Stanelle

"This competition is allowing us to apply our training," said Pfc. Zach Stanelle, a food specialist with MWSS-172. "We get to refresh old skills as well as learn new ones related to setting up the field mess facility."

Before serving the meal, several leaders, including Maj. Gen. Christopher S. Owens, the commanding general of 1st MAF, toured the field mess site and visited with the Marines.

"The commanding general showed support

for the hard work the Marines are putting into this exercise," said Clarke.

The day was a success for the squadron, proving to the Marines that they could set up a functional field mess facility in a short amount of time. In addition to this, it gave them refresher training in skills that are critical to their job field.

"My goals for my Marines are simple," said Staff Sgt. Michael W. Robinson, a warehouse chief with MWSS-172. "I want them to become proficient in setting up a field mess site and have a better understanding of their military occupational specialty and the responsibilities that come with it."

The results of the competition will be determined after all competing units have been judged at other Marine Corps bases and are expected to be announced in early 2013.



Marines maneuver through jungle terrain with a simulated casualty during the endurance course at the Jungle Warfare Training Center at Camp Gonsalves Oct. 30. The purpose of the endurance course is to develop Marines' ability to maneuver and fight through the jungle while strengthening unit cohesion. The Marines are with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, which is currently assigned to 4th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Marines traverse jungle endurance course

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Daniel E. Valle

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

For the past decade, Marines have trained to fight in the desert terrain of the Middle East. However, with the new national defense strategy focusing on the Asia-Pacific region, Marines are renewing their jungle warfare skills, upholding the Marine Corps tradition of training to fight in every clime and place.

Marines with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, which is currently assigned to 4th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, conducted the endurance course at the Jungle Warfare Training Center at Camp Gonsalves Oct. 30 to develop their ability to maneuver and fight through the jungle.

The Marines, who are stationed on Okinawa as part of the unit deployment program, relish the opportunity to use the Corps' only jungle warfare training center.

"We don't have the opportunity to conduct jungle warfare training anywhere else," said Sgt. Benjamin E. Johns, an infantryman and acting platoon commander with Company G, 2nd Bn., 3rd Marines. "I enjoyed the endurance course and it allowed us to use a lot of the skills we learned from the instructors."

The transition from desert warfare to jungle warfare is important because Marines must be able to fight in any terrain around the world, according to Johns.



Marines sprint to the end of the endurance course with a simulated casualty at the Jungle Warfare Training Center at Camp Gonsalves Oct. 30.

"We have been focused on fighting in desert terrain for the past decade," said Johns. "Now, with the shift of focus to this region, we need to train more in this type of terrain."

During the course, Marines received classes on fast roping, hasty rappelling, crossing valleys using rope bridges, and stretcher carries.

"We took the training we learned, put it all together, and worked hard to complete the grueling course," said Cpl. Patrick P. Webber, an infantryman and squad leader with the company.

The course not only teaches Marines different skills they can use in the jungle, but also strengthens bonds within the unit, according

to Cpl. Abdiel Balderas, an anti-tank missileman and instructor at JWTC.

"The endurance course is the culminating event for the jungle warfare training," said Balderas. "It makes the Marines work together to accomplish the course and, in the end, helps build camaraderie within the unit."

The Marines did well on the course, maintaining good communication and not getting frustrated while navigating the obstacles, according to Johns.

"We worked together really well," said Johns. "We came together, pushed through, and didn't let anything slow us down."

In Theaters Now

NOVEMBER 9 - 15

FOSTER

TODAY Chasing Mavericks (PG), 6 p.m.; Fun Size (PG13), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Chasing Mavericks (PG), 1 p.m.; Flight (R), 4 and 8 p.m.
SUNDAY Chasing Mavericks (PG), 1 p.m.; The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 4 and 7 p.m.
MONDAY Chasing Mavericks (PG), 1 p.m.; Alex Cross (PG13), 4 p.m.; Flight (R), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Alex Cross (PG13), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Paranormal Activity 4 (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Wreck-It Ralph (PG), 7 p.m.

KADENA

TODAY Wreck-It Ralph (PG), 6 p.m.; Taken 2 (PG13), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Wreck-It Ralph (PG), noon, 3 and 6 p.m.; Fun Size (PG13), 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Wreck-It Ralph (PG), 1 and 4 p.m.; Fun Size (PG13), 7 p.m.
MONDAY Wreck-It Ralph (PG), 3 p.m.; Frankenweenie (PG), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Frankenweenie (PG), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Flight (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 7 p.m.

COURTNEY

TODAY The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 6 and 9 p.m.
SATURDAY The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG), 2 p.m.; Paranorman (PG), 6 p.m.
SUNDAY The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG), 2 p.m.; Paranormal Activity 4 (R), 6 p.m.
MONDAY Paranorman (PG), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY Wreck-It Ralph (PG), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Closed

FUTENMA

TODAY Alex Cross (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 4 and 7 p.m.
SUNDAY Alex Cross (PG13), 4 p.m.; The Expendables 2 (R), 7 p.m.
MONDAY Paranormal Activity 4 (R), 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY-THURSDAY Closed

KINSER

TODAY Sinister (R), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Brave (PG), 3 p.m.; Alex Cross (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SUNDAY The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG), 3 p.m.; Sinister (R), 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY-TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 3 and 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY Flight (R), 6:30 p.m.

SCHWAB

TODAY Paranormal Activity 4 (R), 5 and 8 p.m.
SATURDAY Sinister (R), 5 and 8 p.m.
SUNDAY Here Comes the Boom (PG), 5 and 8 p.m.
MONDAY-THURSDAY Closed

HANSEN

TEMPORARILY CLOSED

THEATER DIRECTORY

CAMP FOSTER 645-3465
KADENA AIR BASE 634-1869
(USO NIGHT) 632-8781
MCAS FUTENMA 636-3890
(USO NIGHT) 636-2113
CAMP COURTNEY 622-9616
CAMP HANSEN 623-4564
(USO NIGHT) 623-5011
CAMP KINSER 637-2177
CAMP SCHWAB 625-2333
(USO NIGHT) 625-3834

Movie schedule is subject to change without notice. Call in advance to confirm show times. For a complete listing, visit www.shopmyexchange.com.



SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

For more information or to sign up, contact the Single Marine Program at 645-3681.

SMP THANKSGIVING DINNER - NOV. 21

• Enjoy an afternoon eating a home-style Thanksgiving meal at The Palms at Camp Hansen provided by the single Marine program. The event will include games, prizes, food and entertainment. The event is open to the first 500 people and the deadline to receive tickets is Nov. 14.

SMP TOYS FOR TOTS GOLF TOURNAMENT - DEC. 7

• Join the SMP for a day of fun and golf at the SMP Toys for Tots Golf Tournament at Taiyo Golf Course. All players are encouraged to donate a new, unwrapped toy. The deadline to register is Nov. 30.

Mention of any company in this notice does not constitute endorsement by the Marine Corps.

Japanese phrases of the week:

“Itte rasshai”
 (pronounced: ee-teh rah-sha-ee)

It is a formality used at a short-term departure, to wish someone farewell with the implication of them returning shortly, “you’re leaving”

“Itte kimasu.”
 (pronounced: ee-teh kee-mahs)

It is a formality used when you are leaving and will be back soon, “I’m leaving”



CHAPLAINS' CORNER

“We can nurture our souls to do what they were created to do, righteousness and goodness, in the here and now of our existence.”

Inner spirit can nurture souls' potential

Lt. Hernan Pinilla

CHAPLAIN, MARINE WING HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON 1,
1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING

Just the other day, I was browsing through an old photo album along with my oldest son when we came across a picture of me from 20 years ago. In it, I looked just like I do today! Well, there was a lot less gray hair, but essentially the same. I shared with my son that although this was the same physical person, the spiritual person inside was not the same as 20 years ago; he had been transformed.

In the Judeo-Christian Scriptures, we find that human beings are different from animals because we possess an inner-spiritual essence. This inner essence can be nurtured either towards or away from God. These Scriptures also teach that we can nurture our souls to do what they were created to do, righteousness and goodness, in the here and now of our existence.

With God's help, we can nurture our souls' potential by discovering God's way

of doing things. The more we engross ourselves in God's teachings, the more our thoughts, attitudes, perspectives and behaviors will align with God to do what is good, life-promoting and beneficial to our fellows.

Here's the takeaway; God is compassionate: seek God now! God knows that change takes time, so don't give up seeking to uplift your soul. If you fall easily into mischief, identify that vulnerability and remain vigilant against that behavior so you can pre-empt it. If you struggle with negative thinking, know that you have the power to filter and focus your thoughts. If you get caught up in gossiping about others, think how that information will damage the other person. Have a trustworthy person with whom you can talk and get readjusted.

If you struggle with anger, you may want to institute a plan. Try this plan: if you give in to anger's pull, you have to donate \$100 to a charity. With God's help, you too can change and assist in making this world a better place. Now, go onward and upward with your soul.

FOR UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR ALL MARINE CORPS BASE CHAPELS, CALL 645-2501 OR VISIT WWW.MCIPAC.MARINES.MIL AND LOOK UNDER “AROUND MCIPAC”